

Remarks

Claims 1-10 stand rejected in the Final Office Action. Claims 1-10 are presently pending. Claims 1-2 and 8-10 are amended herewith. The current rejections in the Final Office Action are discussed below using the same paragraph numbering in the Action.

35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph on the basis that claim amendments introduced New Matter (Action at p. 3) and for lack of enablement (Action at p. 6).

While applicants do not concede that these rejections are correct, solely to expedite allowance of the claims, amendments have been introduced to claims 1 and 8-10 so that these claims are more clearly consistent with the language of the specification, the claims as originally filed, and the scope of enablement acknowledged in the Final Office Action (Action at p. 6).

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, for use of the trademark, “Matrigel™.” Applicants have amended claim 2 to use the phrase, “extracellular matrix” in place of Matrigel™. Support for the amendment may be found, *inter alia*, in the specification on page 12, lines 10-11. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Double Patenting

The Final Office Action set forth provisional double patenting rejections over currently pending applications. If any of the cited applications become allowable prior to the allowance of

the current claims, applicants will address the double patenting rejections on their merits or file an appropriate terminal disclaimer.

Fees Due

Should the Patent Office determine that a further extension of time or any other relief is required for further consideration of this application, Applicants hereby petition for such relief, and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and other fees due in connection with the filing of these papers to Deposit Account No. 07-1139, referencing the docket number indicated above.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DJEarp', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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July 11, 2007